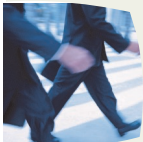




► 200 JOBS CREATED WITH  
AT LEAST 200 MORE TO  
COME AT NEW VXI SITE



► ECONOMIC WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT GRANTS  
AWARDED FOR 2015



► **BIEN**  
Building an International Economic Network

○ Fall 2014 V1



# Tucson *focus*

A CITY OF TUCSON ECONOMIC ACTIVITY UPDATE FROM  
THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC INITIATIVES

Visit the *City of Tucson Business Web Page* to learn more and to contact the  
Economic Initiatives Team at <http://business.tucsonaz.gov>



## VXI Global Solutions Opens Tucson Site

200 new jobs have been created in Tucson with the opening of VXI's new Tucson site at the former Burr Brown facility at 6730 S. Tucson Blvd. The beautifully remodeled state of the art call center has capacity for over 400 employees.

Mayor Jonathon Rothschild, Ward V City Council Member Richard Fimbres, and TREO President and CEO Joe Snell cut the ribbon at the grand opening ceremony Friday, September 12th. Mayor Rothschild stated "I welcome the 200 jobs VXI Global Solutions has brought to Tucson. One reason Tucson was chosen is the quality of our bilingual workforce, one of our many competitive advantages as a region."

VXI Global Solutions is a provider of business process and information technology outsourcing that offers comprehensive services to its clients. The company specializes in software development, application maintenance, quality assurance testing, infrastructure outsourcing, multilingual and BPO services. VXI currently has over 13,000 employees in 18 sites with more than 18,000 seats located in the US, Philippines, Latin America, and China.

Full time employment opportunities are available for various positions including Account Associates, Team Leaders, Quality Assurance Specialists and many others. All interested applicants are encouraged to apply online by visiting the VXI Careers Page (<http://www.vxi.com/career-portal/careers-in-tucson-az/>) and selecting the Tucson option.



## Economic & Workforce Development Grants Awarded

On July 8th the Mayor and Council approved the 2015 funding recommendations made by the Economic & Workforce Development Selection Committee for the allocation of \$600,000 in grants.

The 2015 Recipients are:

- **Small Business Development:** Start Up Tucson/Idea to Impact Economic Gardening \$52,500 ♦ MAC Small Business and Entrepreneur Development Services \$42,000 ♦ Downtown Tucson Partnership Small Business Support \$24,000
- **Workforce Development Job Training for Adults:**  
YWCA Tucson YWorks \$78,000 ♦ Community Food Bank Culinary Training \$19,500
- **Workforce Development Job Training for Youth:**  
Tucson Youth Development Growth Industries Internship Program \$50,000
- **Long Term Job Training for Adults:**  
JobPath Inc. \$185,000 ♦ Goodwill Industries Career Ladder Training \$88,500
- **Special Events Tourism:** Tucson Festival of Books \$10,000 ♦ El Tour de Tucson \$10,000 ♦ Tucson Audubon Society Bird and Wildlife Festival \$10,000 ♦ All Souls Procession \$10,000 ♦ Tucson Meet Yourself \$10,000 ♦ Cyclovia \$10,000

## Global Economic Development District (GEDD) Refined and Improved

The Mayor and Council approved several refinements and improvements to the GEDD at the Study Session meeting on September 9th. These changes better defined the area of the district, the incentives available, and the qualifications for the incentives.

The GEDD incentive is available to small and medium size businesses that choose to locate within the borders of the GEDD or existing companies within the GEDD looking to expand their operation.

The GEDD is located in Tucson's rapidly growing South and Southeast sides, already a viable and energetic entrepreneurial community with key transportation and logistics infrastructure, key manufacturing operations, and the UA Tech Parks. The area has favorable proximity and accessibility to Mexico, Texas and California markets through both rail and road.

**Learn More:** <http://business.tucsonaz.gov/files/business/GEDD.pdf>



## Airport Properties Annexation Underway

*Annexation will allow application of City Economic Development Incentives to developable TIA properties!*

On September 9th Mayor and Council approved moving forward on the annexation of four areas around the Tucson International Airport. This annexation will bring into the City an area covering approximately 2,419 acres owned by the Tucson Airport Authority and the City of Tucson.

The vast majority of the land is vacant and undeveloped. TAA is marketing some of the property for

development and believes annexation is beneficial as it allows a firm or developer to be considered for City of Tucson economic development incentives.

In addition, Aerospace Parkway, currently in design by Pima County, will increase interest in development opportunities within this area.

Annexation to the City of Tucson will allow this property to receive service from Tucson Water and will also improve access to public safety services. Additionally the City will benefit from the revenues

that fully developed commercial and industrial properties generate as well as the jobs that can be created. These elements improve

the economic climate of our region and the quality of life for all Tucsonans.



To learn more about the benefits of annexation

visit the City Annexation page: <http://business.tucsonaz.gov/annexation> or contact Annexation Project Manager Mike Czechowski at 520-837-4058.



## Main Gate Entertainment District

The EI team presented a proposal for Tucson's second entertainment District, the Main Gate Entertainment District, to the Mayor and Council on September 9th. Mayor and Council provided direction and made slight changes to the map of the proposed district. The EI team will incorporate those changes into the resolution establishing the district. To learn more and see the map go to: <http://business.tucsonaz.gov/business/tucson-entertainment-districts>



## CAID Industries Awarded Primary Jobs Incentive

At the City Council Study Session on September 9th the Mayor and Council directed the Office of Economic Initiatives to proceed with awarding the Primary Jobs Incentive to CAID Industries and to return with the Development Agreement formalizing the award.

CAID requested the incentive based on their \$5.5 million dollar expansion which is creating 30 new jobs paying a minimum of \$52,400 annually. The value of the incentive is estimated at just over \$100,000. The direct revenue generated by the expansion will be just under \$1 million and the indirect revenue is projected to be \$3.5 million over the next 3 years.

**Our thanks to CAID for making this investment in Tucson and for their 67 year commitment to our Community.**

## Join BIEN and Expand Your International Opportunities

Go to [www.connectBIEN.com](http://www.connectBIEN.com) today!

BIEN is a collaborative website hosted by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) in cooperation with a wide variety of partners including Pima Association of Governments and the City of Tucson. It is a comprehensive resource database that connects businesses in Arizona with each other and with businesses in Mexico and Canada. As a business-to-



business connection tool, BIEN links individual businesses across international boundaries, and seeks to promote commerce, cross-border freight, and trade opportunities, by helping businesses connect to their supply chain and distribution networks in the trade region.

[Go to the web page and join today!](http://www.connectBIEN.com)

## CEDS Approved

The Mayor and Council has approved the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document presented by EI staff at the meeting on September 9th.

The CEDS document is a tool that allows a community to apply for United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration grants for public works, economic adjustment, and planning programs. The CEDS

lays out a strategy and incorporates benchmarks and metrics by which our region can track progress for creating jobs and strengthening our economy.

EI staff will return to Mayor and Council, after incorporating their suggestions and recommendations, with the final document for formal adoption in October.

### City of Tucson Office of Economic Initiatives

Contact us:  
[Econdev@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Econdev@tucsonaz.gov)

Chris Kaselemis  
Director  
520-837-6576

Andy Squire  
Economic Development Spec.  
520-837-4094

Camila Bekat  
Economic Development Spec.  
520-837-4078

Juan Francisco Padres  
International Trade  
Economic Development Spec.  
520-837-4079

Nicholas Ross  
Economic Development Analyst  
520-837-4029

Mike Czechowski  
Annexation Project Manager  
520-837-4058

Greg Jackson  
Management Coordinator  
520-837-8011